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GENERAL



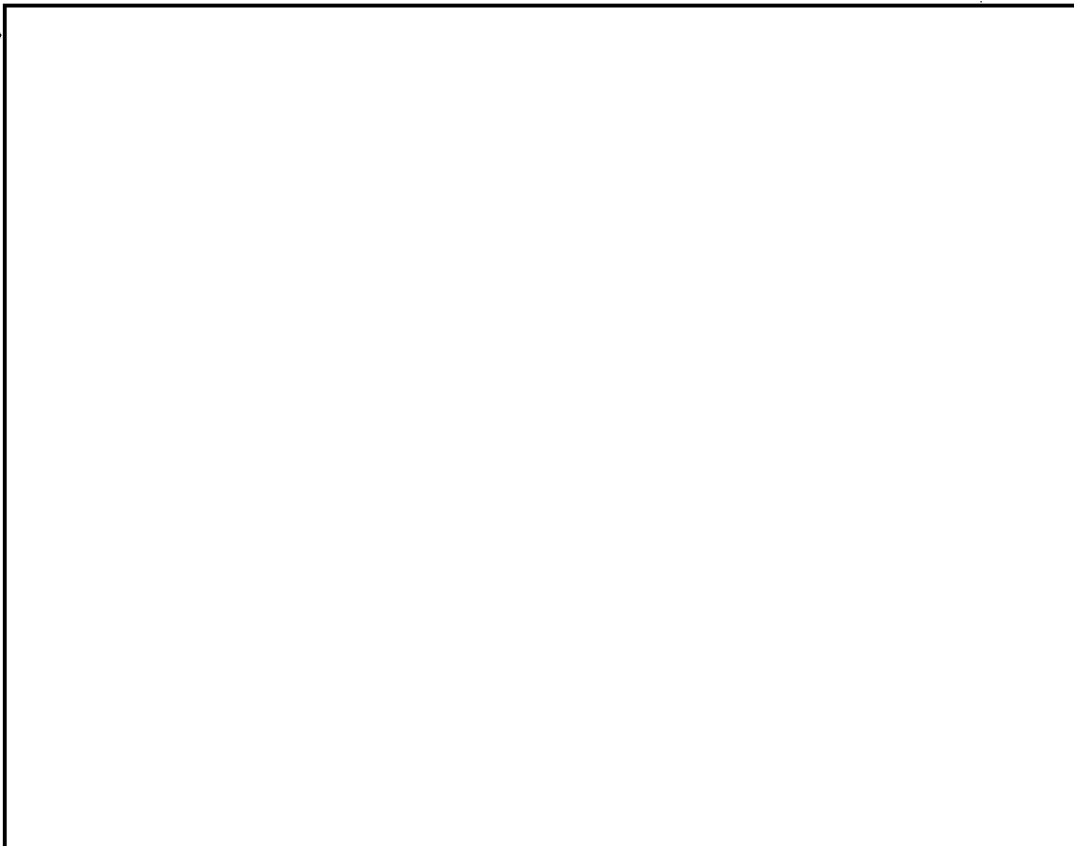
CIA - Sec

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EUROPE

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3. **FRANCE: USSR may finance French coal strike--According to US Embassy Paris,**

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that Communist Party Leader Duclos recently told the French Communist Party: (a) the USSR

Document No. 003

- 1 NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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Date: 1 MAR 1978

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considers it absolutely necessary for the Communists to re-enter the French Government; and (b) the USSR will finance the French Communist Party in order to achieve this aim and possibly will support the French coal strike. A trustworthy trade union official [redacted] that 25X1 the Communists hope to prolong the coal strike for two or three weeks and thus deliver a severe blow on the eve of winter. Source said that the Kremlin has arranged for the halting of shipments of coal from Poland to France during this strike.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that the Communist strategy of trying to obtain a "Popular Front" Government by inducing economic and political chaos would be materially advanced by Soviet financial aid. It is unlikely, however, that the Center and Right would consent to admit the Communists into such a Government, although some Socialists might be inclined to do so in order to recoup their labor and political losses.)

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4. GREECE: Government seeks additional US aid-- [redacted] that the Greek Government has submitted a memorandum to US Embassy Athens requesting additional US financial aid for the primary purpose of enlarging the Greek armed forces. The memorandum points out that Greece is the only country where Communism is carrying on armed opposition to US efforts for the rehabilitation of Europe and declares that without immediate aid "the Greek Government shall no more be in a position to bear the very great responsibilities it is now shouldering."

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NEAR EAST-AFRICA

5. PALESTINE: US opposed to formation of Arab "government" -- The Department of State has instructed US diplomatic representatives in the Arab capitals to point out in a "spirit of friendly counsel" that the US considers the establishment of the "Arab

CIA - 5

- 2 -

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Palestine government'' as prejudicial to a successful solution of the Palestine problem and contrary to the best interests of the Arab states and the Palestinian Arabs. The Department expresses the opinion that the Arab regime, by claiming to speak for all of Palestine, affords the Jewish revisionists a pretext for similar claims on behalf of Israel.

- 3 -
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